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BEFORE THE ARIZONA GORRORATION 1 2 **COMMISSIONERS** JEFF HATCH-MILLER, Chairman SEP 27 P 3: 28 3 WILLIAM A. MUNDELL AZ CORP COMMISSION 4 MARC SPITZER DOCUMENT CONTROL MIKE GLEASON 5 KRISTIN K. MAYES 6 Docket No. S.20442A-06-0110 In the matter of: 7 Mid America Energy, Inc., 8 a Nevada Corporation APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW AS 129 Haven Street, Unit A COUNSEL OF RECORD 9 Hendersonville, TN 37075 10 Mid America Oil & Gas a Tennessee Limited Liability Company 11 2023 Earl Pearce Cir. Mount Juliet, TN 37122-1328 12 Gary M. Milby a/k/a 13 Gary Moss Milby a/k/a Gary M. Milley 14 And Jane Doe Milby, husband and wife 15 129 Haven Street, Unit A Arizona Corporation Commission Hendersonville, TN 37075 **DOCKETED** 16 Jim and Jane Doe Whatcott. 17 SEP 27 2006 husband and wife, 129 Haven Street, Unit A 18 Hendersonville, TN 37075 **DOCKETED BY** 19 John and Jane Doe Blitz, husband and wife, 20 129 Haven Street, Unit A Hendersonville, TN 37075 21 Respondents. 22 In accordance with R14-3-104(E), Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. moves the Administrative Law 23 Judge to permit its withdrawal and the withdrawal of Paul L. Stoller and Don Bivens as counsel 24 of record to any party to these proceedings. Snell & Wilmer has notified its former clients, as 25

well as the other parties to this action, of its withdrawal as counsel. 26

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R14-3-104(E) states that: "The Commission or presiding officer in any proceeding may permit the withdrawal of an attorney from any proceeding upon written application and good

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cause shown under such terms, conditions, and notices to clients and other parties as the Commission or presiding officer may direct."

On March 24, 2006, Don Bivens and Paul Stoller (then of the firm Bivens & Nore, P.A.) filed a Request for Hearing on behalf of Mid America Energy, Inc., Mid America Oil & Gas, LLC, Gary Milby, Jim Whatcott, and John Blitz. Because of the potential for conflicts of interest between Messrs. Whatcott and Blitz, on the one hand, and the companies and Mr. Milby, on the other, Michael Ross of the law firm of Gallagher & Kennedy subsequently appeared and answered the Cease and Desist Order on behalf of Messrs. Whatcott and Blitz. Mr. Ross and Gallagher & Kennedy have since served as sole counsel for Messrs. Whatcott and Blitz. Consequently, Messrs. Bivens' and Stoller's remaining clients in this proceeding have been Mid America Energy, Inc., Mid America Oil & Gas, LLC, and Gary Milby (the "Mid America Parties"). Messrs. Bivens and Stoller recently joined the firm of Snell & Wilmer. The Mid America Parties consented to the transfer of their representation from Bivens & Nore, P.A. to Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. The firm of Bivens & Nore, P.A. is no longer active in the practice of law.

For the reasons that are confidential and potentially privileged, Messrs. Stoller and Bivens and Snell & Wilmer terminated their representation of the Mid America Parties as of September 18, 2006. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. informed the Mid America Parties of the termination on that date via email, facsimile, U.S. mail, and voice mail and those parties are aware of the upcoming deadlines in these proceedings. Further, Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. and Messrs. Stoller and Bivens have provided notice to all other parties to this proceeding of their withdrawal as attorneys for the Mid America Parties by the filing of a Notice of Withdrawal in these proceedings.

In the event that the Judge needs to know the basis for Snell & Wilmer, L.L.P.'s termination of representation of the Mid America Parties, Snell & Wilmer, L.L.P. will submit a confidential and *ex parte* Declaration by Paul Stoller that will explain the facts leading up to the termination of the representation.

Because there is good cause for the withdrawal and notice to all parties, Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. requests that Judge Stern, as the presiding officer of these proceedings, approve the

withdrawal of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., Don Bivens, and Paul Stoller as counsel of record for any 1 and all parties in these proceedings. 2 3 Dated this 27th day of September 2006. 4 SNELL & WILMER, L.L.P. 5 6 Don Bivens 7 Paul L. Stoller One Arizona Center 8 400 East Van Buren Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202 9 10 ORIGINAL AND TWELVE COPIES filed and COPY hand-delivered this 27th 11 day of September 2006 to: 12 The Honorable Marc E. Stern 13 Administrative Law Judge Arizona Corporation Commission 14 1200 West Washington Street 15 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 16 Shoshana O. Epstein, Esq. 17 Staff Attorney Arizona Corporation Commission 18 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 19 20 Matthew J. Neubert Director of Securities 21 Arizona Corporation Commission 1300 West Washington Street, 3rd Floor 22 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 23 Michael R. Ross Gallagher & Kennedy 2575 East Camelback Road 24 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-9225 25 Attorneys for Jim Whatcott and John Blitz 26 /// 27 /// ///

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COPY mailed this 27th day of September 2006 to: Mid-America Energy, Inc. Mid-American Oil & Gas, LLC Gary M. Milby 129 Haven Street, Unit A Hendersonville, TN 37075

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